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THE BOOK FOR EVERYONE



144th YEAR - AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY



During 1959, the American Bible Society . . .

rejoiced with Miss S. Ruth Barrett, its Secretary of the Work for the Blind, who was cited for "outstanding service to the blind" and was awarded the Migel Medal, the highest honor that can be received from the American Foundation for the Blind;

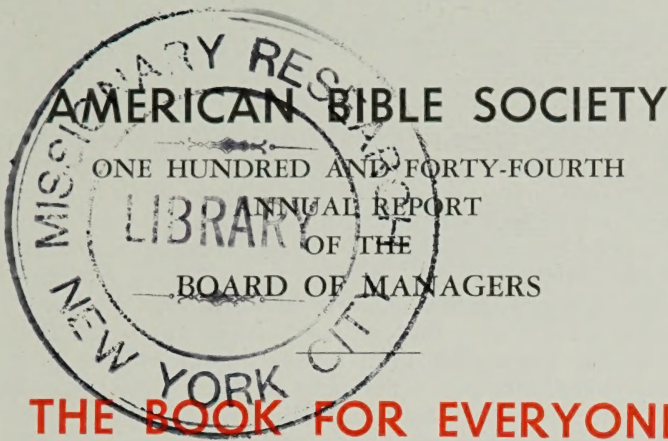
distributed at home and abroad 1,114,647 Bibles, 1,846,267 New Testaments, 14,690,003 Gospels and other Portions, a record total of 17,650,917 Scriptures, the circulation being in 296 languages;

presented to the new States of Alaska and Hawaii handsomely bound and inscribed English Bibles for their respective State houses and copies of the Scriptures in the native languages for their State-house libraries;

recognized at its Annual Meeting the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Connecticut Bible Society, the Massachusetts Bible Society, the Bible Society of Maine and the New York Bible Society by presenting to representatives of those Societies parchment citations expressing praise and warm congratulations;

extended its distribution to the United States Armed Forces to include the submarine forces of the Atlantic and Pacific Fleets, which until 1959 did not have Bibles because chaplains usually attend to Scripture distribution, and chaplains are not assigned to submarines;

received a manuscript copy of the Gospels in Amharic, transcribed on parchment, richly bound in red leather as a gift from His Imperial Majesty, Haile Selassie, as an expression of appreciation for a Bible given to him by the Society;



THE Bible is the Book for everyone, but not everyone possesses the Book. That is both the conviction and the challenge of the American Bible Society.

On the one hand it is a conviction inherent in the Book itself, because here God disclosed Himself and spoke His Word fully in Jesus, His Son, the Divine Word, who attests to its genuineness. It is a conviction verified by the history of the Christian Church, which translated, preserved and copied the Book, read it publicly and expounded it for worship and instruction. It is a conviction confirmed by the experiences of devout men and women who from age to age discovered what God proved Himself to be in the pages of this Book, who heard God speaking to their consciences as they read His revelation of Himself and tried for themselves what He commanded, and who found a personal relationship with the living God as revealed in Jesus Christ.

On the other hand it is still a challenge, because in spite of this belief so clearly affirmed in the Scriptures and so completely substantiated by the history of the Christian Church and the faith of devout men and women, there are still millions who either do not possess the Book or, if they do possess it, have not discovered its message of life. It is still a challenge because it has not as yet been translated into every language or dialect in the world. It is a challenge because there are still millions of people who could not read the Book, even if it were translated for them—an estimated 690 to 720 million persons fifteen years and over. Finally, it is a challenge because, even among those people into whose tongues the Bible has been translated and who can read, there are thousands who have not as yet taken the Book and commended it to or shared it with every prospective reader.

This document, the One Hundred and Forty-fourth Report of your Board of Managers to you, the members, friends and supporters of the American Bible Society, will clarify that challenge and reaffirm that conviction. Here you will find some strong indications of the size of the task that confronts the American Bible Society and its sister Societies around the world—exploding population, advance in literacy and learning, new revolutionary moods and methods, the rise of nationalism, the

resurgence of ancient religions and, hovering over all, the threat of holocaust and destruction. Here you will also find some solid intimations of how these apparent obstacles may become opportunities through the complete dedication of the individual and corporate resources of all Bible Societies and the simple beliefs of men and women around the world—beliefs that motivate an Indian chief living on the Peruvian border to make a journey six days by canoe and on foot through dense jungle in order, as he expressed it, “to learn more about God”; that sustain a Bible woman of Brazil to bring the Gospel to an inmate of a women’s penitentiary, giving “a little love to the inmates” in the name of Jesus Christ; that enable a blind woman to write “having the Bible at one’s finger tips can make the difference between utter darkness and shining victory”; that convince a young African lad to witness “education without the Word of God makes us helpless.” These, then, are some of the happy remembrances of past mercies that give us present confidence to face humbly the challenges of the next decade, which must be met if the witness of the Word is to become indeed the Book for everyone, everywhere and always.

CIRCULATION RECORD

THERE can be little argument that the Bible in the language of the people everywhere is our eventual missionary goal. Whether we are moving toward that goal, slowing down, marking time or losing ground must be judged to a large degree by the total circulation of Scriptures. Last year’s statistics reveal the following:

YEAR	BIBLES	TESTAMENTS	PORTIONS	TOTAL
1959	1,114,647	1,846,267	14,690,003	17,650,917

This is the highest total in the history of the Society and for the first time shows a marked increase over the previous six years, for which the yearly average was more than 15 million volumes of Scriptures. These figures often are the result of a very simple act—the exchange of a Bible, a New Testament, or a Portion between two people. This simple act multiplied by millions is the heart of the American Bible Society program. Behind these figures is admiration, affirmation, adventure, devotion, faith and courage. Whether thousands of volumes are distributed through a well-organized evangelistic or educational program, a plan of systematic house-to-house visitation under the direction of a Promoter of Distribution, a nationwide reading of the Christmas story in the United States, or the individual way, sometimes lonely and dangerous, of the colporteur—in the villages of Japan, the coffee shops of Turkey, on the shores of Lake Titicaca in



Diamond Alkali Company

Both youth and age find comfort through faithful Bible reading

the Andes or in the jungles of the Congo—they all represent an integral part of the total program of the Bible Society.

These are some of the joyful remembrances of the past year's efforts, but they lose some of their joy when we consider the swarming majority of the peoples of the world who have yet to be reached with the Gospel, either spoken or written. The simple truth is that the normal annual increase in population in most countries far outstrips the circulation of Scriptures in each year. The total issue of whole Bibles and Testaments across the world by the twenty-three United Bible Societies, of which the American Bible Society is a member, is barely one fifth of the total annual increase in population. This is the new degree—and in some respects, the largest degree—of responsibility for meeting the varied demand and the world need for the Holy Scriptures that has fallen upon the Bible Society. A way must be found to increase the supply of Scriptures to the world during the next ten years, which may be one of the most significant decades of the twentieth century.

NEW FACE FOR A NEW DECADE

FACING the many neglected opportunities before it, the Bible Society is reexamining its own program. Every activity of the Society is under scrutiny except the basic purpose "to encourage a wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment." The Executive Officers are engaged in a complete review of procedures and



Members of the 41st Annual Meeting of the Advisory Council

policies. The present attitude is: "Yesterday's excellent way may not be good enough today." In National Distribution, progress surveys are being made in an effort to centralize the service factors and extend the promotion features. In Overseas Distribution, procedures and policies are being examined in area conferences, with major participation of indigenous groups. Methods are therefore being changed, based on expressions of need from the field. This includes translations and revisions and improvements in type face and binding. Methods of Scripture distribution are under constant study.

One of the major questions is, how far the Society should go in free distribution of Gospels at home and overseas. Experiments are being conducted in Bible Reading and Sharing programs and in colportage campaigns in which people are given a Gospel with the personal witness of the distributor. The Society is reorganizing to adapt its operations for a new day. The By-Laws of the Board of Managers were revised in February to create a Committee on General Administration composed of the chairmen of the seven Standing Committees and three members at large. This Committee coordinates the activities of the several Standing Committees for the orderly administration of the work of the Society and may review policies and long-range plans which may be under consideration in any committee and may make recommendation thereon. Three Administrative Officers from the Executive Staff have been designated to serve as advisors to the Committee on General Administration to provide coordination and aid the general welfare of the Society. The Executive Secretaries continue to be the responsible officers for the Society's program and to plan the total program in democratic procedure. A Building Committee of the Board of Managers is studying the Society's space needs in an effort to solve a serious problem in which the headquarters staff is housed in three locations in New York. All of these changes and revisions are taking place for the specific purpose of moving toward the ultimate missionary goal of the Society—the Bible, translated, published, distributed, and read in all the languages of the earth.

SPIRITUAL BREAKTHROUGH

THE spiritual breakthrough on Pentecost pointed the way for the early church, and ever since, the message of life has continued to be proclaimed in living words. Last year was no exception, for at year's end translations and revisions in forty languages were in the process of publication. Twenty-six languages were represented in those completed during the year, eight of which were first Scripture publications:

AFRICA	MEXICO
Combe—(<i>Mark</i>)	Chontal: Tabasco (<i>John</i>)
GUATEMALA	Otomi: Sierra (<i>Mark</i>)
Chuj: San Mateo (<i>Mark</i> , <i>Acts</i> , <i>James</i>)	Otomi: Tenango (<i>Mark</i>)
UNITED STATES	Tojolabal: (<i>Mark</i>)
Comanche (<i>Mark</i>)	Tzeltal: Bachajón (<i>Luke</i>)

Four of the twenty-six were also New Testaments, three of which were "firsts":

AFRICA	Beti
MEXICO	Totonac
PERU	Ayacucho Quechua

In addition to these there were one Bible and a variety of individual Portions either revised or newly translated. When the "firsts" of the American Bible Society are added to those published by the British and Foreign Bible Society, the National Bible Society of Scotland, the Bible Society of India and Ceylon and others, the total languages in which some part of the Bible has been published is 1,151 as of December 31, 1959. Millions of persons without the written Scriptures still await the completion of translations of the first Gospels into their languages.

Furthermore, because language is a changing thing, Bibles that have been in use for years must be revised into the contemporary idiom of the people. A significant revision that has been completed is the Hiligaynon Bible. Other revisions which are now in process include the Cebuano Bible, the Ilocano Bible, the Tshiluba Bible, the Arabic Bible and the Spanish Bible. Each new revision requires a heavy investment in personnel, material, composition, plates—a single Bible often requiring \$25,000 for plates alone. The art of improving and correcting translations, that they may bear faithful and idiomatic witness to the Gospel, has greatly advanced in recent years, but it requires a still greater investment in personnel, training and supervision. To meet this challenge the Society's guidance to translators was advanced in several significant ways. For example, the preparation of a new Greek text continued, with an international committee of scholars and

with the cooperation of the National Bible Society of Scotland and the Württemberg Bible Society. The manuscript of a translator's commentary on Mark was completed for the press. This important work takes up in detail each of the translation problems in the Gospel according to Mark in such a way as to help in the translation of that Book, although many of the problems are basic to related problems in other parts of the New Testament. Dr. William D. Reayburn and Dr. Fidel P. Galang were appointed to the Society's staff of overseas translations consultants, to join with three others who are working full time in the field in giving technical guidance to translators. One of the important parts of the year's program for helping translators was an unprecedented conference in Mexico, when translators from Mexico, Guatemala, Peru, the United States and the Philippines were brought together to study the techniques and problems of checking their own translations and those of others. Only as this work continues can the spiritual breakthrough take place in the twentieth century, so that this one Book may be in every language in every land before the eyes and in the ears and hearts of all men.

SCRIPTURE DISTRIBUTION UNITED STATES

LAST fall a three-day conference of National Distribution and Headquarters Secretaries was held in the Chicago Bible House. The history and the philosophy of national distribution and the resources available were reexamined in the light of growing needs and new challenges. Each Secretary read a prepared statement on the question: "What are our purposes in distributing the Scriptures in the United States?" It was agreed that the task of the American Bible Society in the United States is essentially what it has always been everywhere—at home and abroad—namely, the missionary distribution of the Scriptures. This means that the Society has a special evangelistic concern for the politically, economically, racially, socially and religiously underprivileged in this country. A special memorandum to the conference by Consultant North on "The Task of the American Bible Society in the United States" listed twenty-one categories of "people of need" to whom the Bible Society has a distinctive missionary obligation. These include prisoners in local, state and Federal prisons; delinquent youth and their families; migrants; the blind; the unreached masses in large cities; ethnic groups and military personnel. During the discussion it became self-evident that, in order to fulfill this fundamental missionary purpose, the Society must constantly improve its techniques, revise its organizational patterns and adapt its methods to the demands

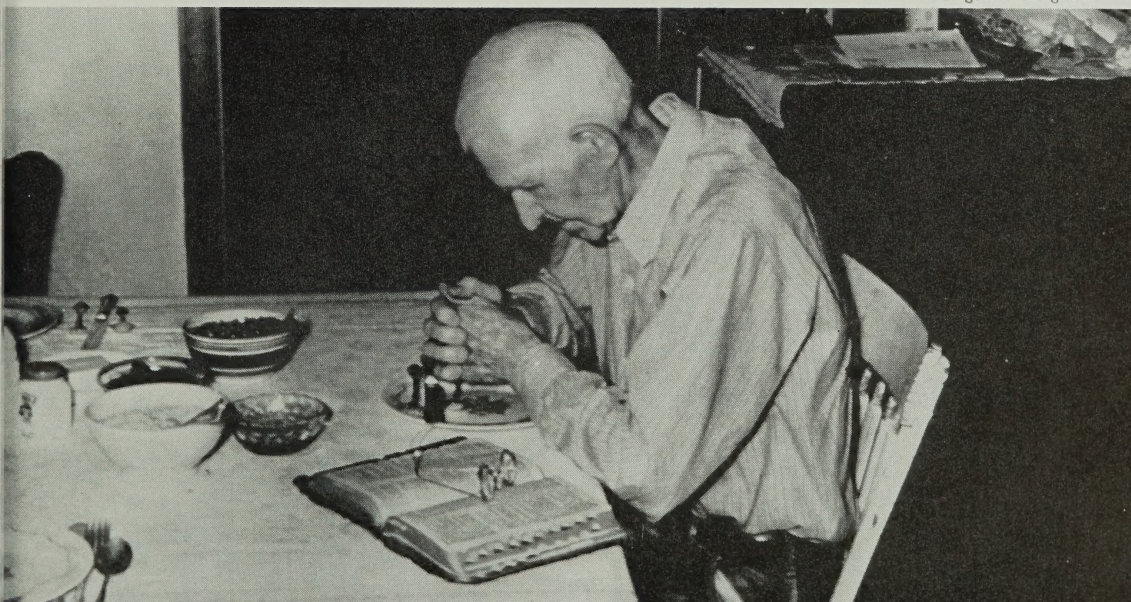
of the changing American scene. In the light of this study the work of national distribution is being divided into three regions, with augmented staffs of able specialists in each regional center. Regional offices, therefore, have been created in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles.

Although these new regional offices did not become official until January 1, 1960, the results of the Chicago conference began to have their effect as the year drew to a close, when a high point of the total circulation for the year was the Christmas Eve reading of the Christmas message across the nation. A special Portion of the Christmas story as recorded in St. Luke 1: 5-2: 40, with a brief introduction from St. Matthew 2: 9-11, was prepared with an attractive four-color cover entitled "... On Earth Peace" and was printed in large type. A total stock of 2,000,000 copies in the King James Version and the Revised Standard Version was depleted almost two months before Christmas, and a reprint of 210,000 was not sufficient to meet the demand. They were used in family gatherings and church meetings and for community-wide visitation programs to make sure that every home received an invitation to participate and that copies of the Christmas story were left at each house, hospital and institution. The program was featured in several religious and secular magazines and through newspapers, radio and television. The Bible Society hopes that this initial effort will start the custom of reading the Christmas story aloud in homes of the nation on Christmas Eve and help to restore and extend the practice of family devotions and family worship. It is revealing to note that this idea of the family reading of the Birth of Jesus on Christmas Eve started in the migrant camps of California. The Spanish Gospels of Luke provided by the American Bible Society were distributed to the migrants along with a devotional guide. The spiritual results were so rewarding that Secretary Collins, who was in charge of the migrant

The Christmas Message

A faithful witness gives thanks

"Together Magazine"



work, passed on the idea to the Bible Society when he became a staff member of the Society.

Migrant Ministry

This only serves to introduce the total program for agricultural migrants. Each year a flood of Mexican nationals comes into the United States. They have been selected by their government to have the opportunity of working in the fields of the United States for a period of six months. Close to 90,000 workers pass through each of the three "ports of entry" in Texas. The same applies to the reception center at Calexico, California, and as they move into the states farther north the Bible Society has a wonderful opportunity to distribute the Gospel message. At the California center 60,000 Illustrated Gospel Portions were given to these *braceros* through the efforts of the Southern Baptist Convention. Foremen who travel with the men indicate that these are highly treasured and read by the men until they are almost completely memorized. Many of the agricultural migrants are handicapped because of inability to read or write. The Bible Society has been co-operating with the Laubach Literacy and Mission Fund, and excerpts from one letter indicate the value of this use of the Scriptures: "Bibles are presented to the men when they receive their certificate. . . . I wish you could see the light in their eyes when they receive their Bibles. Perhaps now for the first time in their lives they own a book. I am sure they are well worth it, as they are making a 'bridge of friendship' to Mexico." During the middle of the year Secretary Ralph Rice of the Guatemala Agency visited the Southwest, looking forward to his work among the Spanish-speaking people in 1960. The Society has high hopes that the new ministry to our rapidly growing Spanish-speaking population will meet a great and long unmet need. There also are other agriculture migrants, and these are citizens of the United States who follow the crops. They, too, are remembered with gifts of God's Word through the "Harvester" program of the Division of

Bible Society contributors listen to the Finger-fono





Presentation of State-house Bible to Governor of Alaska

Home Missions as they move back and forth across the nation and face new adjustments because of increased agricultural mechanization.

Opportunities for Scripture distribution to institutions—hospitals, homes for the aged, rescue missions and correctional institutions—continue to grow and constitute important areas of need in which the Bible Society has a distinctive missionary obligation. Every national distribution Secretary has found this to be a most rewarding service. As Secretary Osberg writes, “. . . the most impressive and far-reaching program was the placing of the special Portion of Scripture in the hands of all hospitalized persons in Illinois on Christmas and Easter mornings. Through this means in the neighborhood of 68,000 people received the Scriptures on the two days of the year most conducive to the meditation on the things of Jesus Christ.” Many are the heart-warming expressions of appreciation from patients and staff of the hospitals. Secretary West reported a closer check of the rescue missions and their Scripture needs. Scriptures in Spanish and English were made available. The Bibles were used in the other institutions for study. The New Testaments were given individually in personal consultations, and the Portions were placed where they could be taken by the guests. As one superintendent wrote: “We cannot tell you what it has meant to have a New Testament to offer a man searching his soul. Both here and in the county jail we have seen real victories won.” There seems to be a slow but steady increase in the number of full-time chaplains serving penal institutions and state institutions for mentally disturbed and delinquent or retarded youth. These latter perhaps deserve special mention, for their needs are somewhat different from those of hospitals. When Secretary Cameron made calls on some

**Institutional
Ministry**

of the chaplains of such institutions he found a deep concern for the use of the Bible on the part of those patients who could read with some understanding. Very few of the chaplains have a literature budget. Hence the need for grants from the Society. There is no undue waste, and in every case deep appreciation for this ministry, not only by the chaplains but the inmates, one of whom exclaimed when she received her Bible, "Mine to keep?"

Scriptures to the Military Personnel

The Bible Society, which for 143 years has been supplying free Scriptures to the nation's military personnel, chiefly through the chaplains of our armed forces and Veterans Administration Hospitals, has extended that service to the submarine fleet. Bibles have not been "standard equipment" on submarines until now because chaplains usually attend to Scripture distributions, and chaplains are not assigned to submarines. Therefore, in appropriate ceremonies at the submarine base in New London, Conn., on board the U.S.S. *Irex*, a ship's Bible and an Illustrated New Testament were presented to Lieut. Commander Lloyd S. Smith, Jr., the ship's commander, in the presence of Rear Admiral F. B. Worden. Simultaneously, the Society sent similar Bibles and New Testaments to all other ships of the submarine forces of the Atlantic and Pacific Fleets, including the atomic-powered submarines, as well as submarine tenders and submarine rescue vessels. This is only one of the many ways through which the Society has constituted a link between the man in the forces and his church at home. Last year this service totaled 1,037,615 Scripture volumes, approximately one tenth of the total national distribution. To meet the continuing large requests new procedures are being planned to fit the limited budget assigned for the service.

Presentation of ship's Bible to staff of United States submarine



More and more the churches of America are realizing the importance of using the Scriptures in evangelism, and the Bible Society continues to make every effort to serve them in this important ministry. Sometimes it may be the widespread and effective use of the plan of hand-marked New Testaments for laymen which has been vigorously promoted among Southern Baptist Churches and now is also used by other denominations. The laymen of one Louisiana church, for example, secured over 7,000 New Testaments and distributed them person to person in accordance with this plan. It may be a special distribution program like that of the Rocky Mountain Conference of the Methodist Church, which used a special edition of the Sermon on the Mount in recognition of its one-hundredth anniversary. It was felt this would awaken recipients to the sacrifice which brought the first preachers to the mountains in the days of the gold rush. It may be a church's Scripture concern for the coal miners of Kentucky or the interdenominational evangelism program of the Illinois Council of Churches. The City of Chicago, chosen to inaugurate the program, began with a mass meeting of 7,000 people. Each one received a sample cover of a book familiarly called "Chicago John" with the message "Life—Peace—For You Too." These little books of the Gospel of John are to be used in a five-year evangelistic effort to reach a million people for Christ. It may also be a Bible in Every Home program by an individual church in West Virginia or the placement of Wayside Gospel Dispensers by the United Church Women of Charlotte, North Carolina. Not the least of these united church efforts was the Bible Reading and Sharing Week in St. Cloud, Minnesota. (Here both Protestant and Catholic joined together to read and share the Gospel of John. In every public place anyone could help himself to the Gospel. A Baptist minister, a Catholic priest and the mayor designated the period as Bible Reading Week, and radio, newspapers and service clubs gave stimulus to the community-wide program.) Many hundreds of miles away, on the Island of Maui, the ministers and church leaders were so impressed with the effectiveness of their "every home" campaign the year before, that in 1959 they conducted a Scripture distribution program which was designed to share the Christmas message and emphasize the fact that Christmas is for Christ.

Scriptures for Evangelism

The coming of statehood to Alaska and the Hawaiian Islands pointed up the missionary distribution of the Scriptures by the Bible Society through the years to the many ethnic groups and foreign-language populations that make up the United States. One national distribution office in the United States reported the circulation of Scriptures in sixty different languages and dialects. Much of this type of work is done by skilled distributors with bilingual ability. One such man is Gabriel Vas, who speaks Hungarian, Spanish and English and thus can offer a Bible in several languages. Last year marked the fiftieth year of his service as "The Bible Man," as he is known by the children and adults in his Chicago neighborhood. Another such dis-

Ethnic Groups and Foreign- Language Population



A Bible study group in Hawaii

Fujibin

tributor is Arnold Parker, who visits the ships in the port of Chicago and had the privilege of presenting Scriptures to the crew of the Dutch ship *Prins Johan Willem Friso*, the first ocean vessel to bring cargo through the St. Lawrence Seaway. In this same area of service reference should be made to the work with the American Indians, where both the Scriptures and the Finger-fonos in Navajo, Apache, and Hopi languages are having a blessed result. As one missionary wrote, "We are beginning to realize the value of the small Finger-fono more and more, especially so in our Navajo Bible-reading classes. The reading of a passage (which they had heard before on the fono) brings a special glow of enlightened expression on their faces."

Spiritual Assignment

This is all part of the spiritual assignment accepted by the American Bible Society one hundred and forty-four years ago. Bibles were lost during the long sea voyage to America and on the westward trek. New families and churches sought Bibles. There was no dependable source of supply. Commerce could not meet the need, for by the time a Bible was printed and carried by wagon train across the Alleghenies, the cost was too high for almost everyone. The Society was founded in 1816 to solve this problem. Bibles were supplied in English and in the languages of the new Americans. The price was always what a man could afford. Christian gifts made up the difference. So America accepted the assignment and grew as a Bible-reading nation. Last year the Society circulated in the United States a record number of Scripture volumes totaling 10,068,595, but still the assignment is not completed. The presentation of State-house Bibles to Alaska and Hawaii last May is symbolic not only of the unfinished task in this country but of the worldwide assignment on the Christian frontiers of the world.



Filipino Boy Scouts receive Scriptures at the Scouts' Tenth World Jamboree

SCRIPTURE DISTRIBUTION OVERSEAS

PERHAPS no other Christian agency is as aware of the global nature of the churches' mission as is the Bible Society, whose witness is heard in more than a hundred lands and over a thousand tongues. This fact was brought into sharp focus at the All-Asia Regional Conference of the United Bible Societies in Singapore last June. The delegates faced the hopes and the longings, the obstacles and the opportunities, the problems and the program for Bible Society work in the future. They also faced the fact that the missionary frontier runs through every land where there are communities living without Christ, whether in Britain or Basutoland, in the U.S.A. or the U.S.S.R., in Bolivia or Borneo, and it became self-evident that, no matter how great may be the concentration upon the local task in each country, the Bible Societies must fulfill the Lord's command—to go to the ends of the earth. The worldwide spiritual assignment of that command is to carry the Word of God in speech that is clear and commanding to the millions of the great communities of the globe which are stirred by what has been so aptly called "the revolution of rising expectations."

To fulfill this obligation overseas the American Bible Society is engaged in the translation, publication and distribution of Scriptures in 75 countries and territories in five continents. It has twelve missionary

**Singapore
Conference**

Secretaries and four national Secretaries who are aided by the local staff numbering hundreds of persons. It cooperates with twenty-two other Bible Societies in the gigantic task of providing the world with more than twenty-seven million copies of the Scriptures (1959), an increase of approximately seven million since the beginning of the last decade, when the total annual circulation of the members of the United Bible Societies was 21,800,227.

A study of the American Bible Society's participation in overseas Scripture distribution shows a steady increase during the past five years:

YEAR	BIBLES	TESTAMENTS	PORTIONS	TOTALS
1955	353,157	717,866	5,008,950	6,079,973
1956	485,662	781,874	5,902,699	7,170,235
1957	512,104	757,187	5,894,425	7,163,716
1958	498,217	763,537	6,178,754	7,440,508
1959	583,461	774,244	6,224,253	7,581,958

Although this does show some progress, the sobering fact is that this overseas circulation of the Scriptures does not even begin to approximate the fantastic population growth forecast for these countries served by the Society. To do this would mean that, as a minimum, circulation should be tripled during the next four years.

Printing Machinery and Equipment

To do this will demand capital investment in printing machinery and equipment. Economic conditions in many nations are resulting in embargoes, high import duties and exchange restrictions. It is becoming increasingly expensive to ship Scriptures into most countries. The alternative is to publish locally, which is what the leaders of many nations desire. Most of the smaller nations, however, do not have printing and binding facilities adequate to manufacture quality books. Immediate capital investments in printing facilities are necessary in Argentina, Brazil, the Philippines, Indonesia, India and the Congo. An investment of one million dollars in printing facilities should be made promptly in these countries if we are not to leave the young churches there without the necessary Scriptures for their people.

Controlled Free Distribution

In vast areas of the world the distribution of the Scriptures depends almost solely upon the Bible Society colporteurs. These men and women go to regions where the church has not yet been planted or, where planted, is still unable fully to perform its mission. In so doing they often bear the only witness to the Gospel which literally thousands of non-Christians ever receive. It is our growing conviction that we must provide these people with small expendable Portions which can be left with every man with whom the colporteur makes a personal encounter. Each one includes an invitation to obtain and read more of the Bible. These would remain as a kind of silent witness to the Gospel after the evangelist has left. This suggestion arises from indigenous churches overseas, and we believe we must respond, even though it will increase our expenditures by scores of thousands of dollars annually.

Bible vans, though expensive to operate, have been effectively used in several countries. The van can cover wide areas where there are few churches and where distance makes it impossible for the colporteur to visit regularly and frequently. Large stocks of books can be carried, making possible long journeys without need for frequent return to the home base. Nearly every country needs at least one Bible van. During the next few years mobile units should be provided for at least thirty more countries. Throughout this report of overseas activity it is obvious that some of these needs are beginning to be met, but greater advance is still needed in each of these countries.

More
Bible
Vans

LATIN AMERICA

POLITICAL unrest, economic instability, religious tension, rising nationalism—these are the repetitive descriptive phrases that keep appearing not only in the daily news dispatches of the secular press, but also in the annual reports from the Bible Society personnel throughout Latin America. The tremendous growth and change that has taken place in this vast area of more than 8,000,000 square miles would have been difficult for the Bible Society Board of Managers to comprehend in 1820, when they made the first grant of Scriptures for Latin America. The concern, however, was there, and it has continued to the present day—a concern that has enabled the annual circulation of Scriptures to increase from 1,935,151 copies to 4,758,975 volumes during the last decade—a concern that has made necessary an increase in the annual appropriation from \$152,000 to \$517,017 and the increase of staff Secretaries from nine to sixteen persons—a concern that has borne fruit in the life of the evangelical church in these twenty-three nations of Spanish, Portuguese, French and Indian culture. Brazil,

Bible Day Parade in the State of Minas Gerais, Brazil



for example, reports from three to four million evangelical Christians, with an exceptionally large number of them assuming positions of influence in the professional, educational and political life of the country. In Argentina steady progress characterizes the evangelical movement, and one can observe a real hunger on the part of the people for things spiritual. It is particularly gratifying to note that religious freedom in Colombia has taken a turn for the better, to the extent that licenses for the construction of evangelical churches have been granted, religious radio broadcasts are now permitted, Scriptures are being circulated at fairs, and on several occasions the authorities have maintained a vigorous and effective vigilance for toleration.

Brazil

South America is so often considered a Spanish-American continent that it is surprising to learn that nearly seventy million of its people speak Portuguese. In this great country, the United States of Brazil, there is an intense belief in individual freedom which includes religious liberty. Missionary endeavor flourishes, and Scripture distribution is limited only by the amount of Scripture stock and funds available. Though there are many second—and third—generation evangelical Christians in Brazil, the most rapid development of the evangelical movement has taken place during recent years. Most of the evangelical Christians are new converts, and the Bible has become an important tool in their Christian zeal and enthusiasm, so much so that every church member is expected to own a Bible, use it at church service, in visitation and in the home. The Brazil Bible Society, conscious of the need and the opportunity for the distribution of the Scriptures, has begun a program of expansion. New regional offices are being established. One in Belem do Pará will supply the great Amazon region. Secretaries will be established in Belo Horizonte, in Goiânia near the new capital, Brasília, and in Porto Alegre. Other

Nicaraguan colporteur encourages people to own and read the Bible



regional offices are in Recife and São Paulo. Thus with headquarters at Rio de Janeiro, the Brazil Bible Society will have regional offices and depositories of Scriptures in seven separate and important areas.

The outstanding achievement of the Society during the past years was the publication and distribution of the newly revised edition of the De Almeida Bible. It was the result of twelve years of study by a committee of Brazilian scholars and consultants. Copies were presented to the President of the country, governors of the states and the ambassadors in special ceremonies. The evangelical Christians were so eager to get the new revision that editions of 176,000 were almost gone by the end of the year. Colportage campaigns conducted under the supervision of Secretary Luiz Antonio Giraldi, trained at the Penzotti Institute, show the amazing enthusiasm and great spirit of Christian cooperation of the churches of Brazil. In one week's campaign in São Paulo, 35 churches participated, 980 persons attended the preparatory classes and participated in the selling of the Scriptures; 35,000 homes were visited, resulting in the circulation of 5,941 Bibles, 1,937 New Testaments and 7,903 Portions. Names, addresses and degree of interest of 6,500 people were recorded on cards for follow-up by the churches. This type of work by colporteurs and volunteers was responsible for more than half of the year's total of 1,544,200 volumes of Scriptures, a substantial increase over the previous year.

The prestige and vigor of the evangelical movement demands increasing respect as it continues to present its effective witness and to grow numerically as well as spiritually. Almost every denomination had some special program of religious emphasis in which the Scriptures were used to reach an ever-increasing constituency. In one instance approximately three thousand Bibles were sold in a combined house-to-house visitation and street sales by seminary students in Buenos Aires.

Argentina

Hungarian girls pack Bibles for countrymen in exile



Here too, the tried and proven methods of colportage under the direction of Mr. Thomas Mulder, another Penzotti Institute graduate, were responsible for the success of the campaign. Regional committees in eight cities are helping to bring the Bible to the people at the grass roots.

Paraguay Uruguay

The Norwegian Bible Society joined the British and American Societies in setting up the new Paraguay-Uruguay Joint Agency, and the entire evangelical community of both countries is looking forward to the personal leadership of the new Secretary, Mr. Per Olav Mydske of Oslo, Norway, who arrived in January 1960. An excellent spirit of cooperation exists between the groups at work in Uruguay. The Waldensians have dedicated a new center for spiritual retreats for all evangelicals. Several special programs of distribution were conducted by different Protestant groups. In Paraguay a new salesroom has been rented for the Bible Society and should offer an excellent witness in another part of the city.

Mexico

The Bible cause in Mexico lost a great personality in the death of the Rev. Francisco E. Estrello, Secretary of the Mexico Agency. His leadership and significant contribution to Christian literature, and the sincerity of his witness, will continue to inspire all those who follow him in the evangelical cause in Mexico. Dr. William Wonderly, Translations Consultant for Mexico and Central America, filled the breach until the appointment of the new Secretary, the Rev. Daniel López de Lara. In spite of the administrative transition, circulation increased more than 45,000 volumes over the previous year for a total of 382,783.

West Indies

Throughout the Cuban revolution and the following months of struggle to consolidate the present government, the Bible continued to be distributed. It reached the people in the Sierra Maestra—"We do not know how, but the Bibles came." It served them after the revolution was over: "Now I have exchanged the gun for the Bible. Thanks be to God!" It ministered to the prisoners: "I am going to read this Book with faith." The Protestant Church has emerged from this turmoil with moral strength and determination to meet the new demands for educational and evangelistic advance. The new literacy program will provide a further opportunity for Bible distribution, the supply of which will no longer be curtailed because of import duty, since all duties and taxes on books were abolished last July. A new separate Agency for Puerto Rico will be established some time in 1960, and in Haiti significant advance in effective Scripture distribution is contingent upon a literacy program now under way. Scriptures in Haitian Creole are being prepared in order to meet the demands of the new literates.

Central America

In this chain of seven countries connecting North and South America, the resurgence of circulation is most encouraging, the second high-



Wycliffe Bible translators and helper at work in Mexico

est year on record. While the rapid industrialization of some of the Central American cities is presenting new opportunities for Bible distribution and the Christian witness, the major activity must still be carried on in the rural areas. Honduras, for example, is predominantly rural and requires time and effort to cover long distances. Here Mr. Saúl Gómez Díaz, a Penzotti graduate, gave a good account of himself, covering fifteen of the eighteen provinces and emphasized the use of the Bible as well as its distribution. Guatemala continued to lead the other countries in circulation, where the students of the Central America Bible Institute sold more than 8,000 Scriptures in five days.

The desire on the part of the Colombians to search the Scriptures is without doubt due to the great and tireless efforts of the Bible Societies throughout the years since 1824, when James Thomson began his missionary colportage work in Colombia. In view of the open doors in Colombia today it behooves the Bible Societies as well as the evangelical churches to increase their forces and multiply their efforts to place the Word of God in the hands of everyone within the borders of the country. While more Bibles were distributed by the Venezuela Agency than in any previous year, New Testaments and Portions were not circulated in such large quantities. This was due primarily to the fact that there were no large-scale distribution campaigns during the year.

Colombia
Venezuela

Despite a certain amount of internal unrest the religious situation has remained stable, and Scripture distribution has continued without interruption in both Peru and Ecuador. One of the outstanding events

Peru
Ecuador



Bibles are carried by manpower to remote villages in the Congo

in Peru was the arrival of the first New Testament in the Ayacucho-Apurímas dialect of Quechua. A special hospital and radio program under the auspices of Radio Station HCJB in Ecuador have provided splendid opportunities for Scripture distribution.

Bolivia

Rising living costs and a seven percent import tax on books are some of the reasons for the drop in circulation of Scriptures in Bolivia. There has also been a falling off in the demand for the special Christmas and Easter Portions. Nevertheless the Bible Agency in Bolivia continued to supply the Bible Coach with Scriptures as it visited the scattered towns, where in several instances new congregations had been established. Some preliminary work in the Old Testament in the Aymara language has been going on, as well as in the Guaraní New Testament and in one or two others of the languages of the lowland Indians.

Chile

Work in Chile has been hampered somewhat by import restrictions, but support and cooperation of the churches reached a new high level. The new President, Jorge Alessandri Rodríguez, was presented a Bible by the Agency Secretary, whose words of presentation expressed the prayers and wishes of the Bible Societies for all of Latin America—"We present the Bible in the name of the Bible Societies in the firm hope that within its pages your Excellency will find light for your daily work and strength to fulfill the high purposes of your government."

AFRICA

AFRICA has been described as a "continent in reserve," and the ex-



Monkmeyer

An out-of-doors religious service in an African village

plosive potential of the reserve is not only industrial revolution and the attainment of political sovereignty, but above all the pursuit of education. The Bible has played no small part in the releasing of these potentials, an observation that is highly significant in view of the fact that 1960 will mark the 125th anniversary of the first printed African Bible. The Christian Church, especially south of the Sahara, is a striking testimony to the tremendous influence of God's Book on Africa. In this region there are over 20 million Christians (Protestant and Catholic), which is a greater number than in the rest of the non-Christian world. The Africans, whether clothed in Western garments, in flowing robes, in skins, in blankets, or half-naked, like the inhabitants of the great forests of Central Africa, have discovered that the Bible is indeed the Book for everyone.

The Congo Basin Agency, serving an area as large as India and Pakistan together, is encouraged by the increasing demand for Scriptures and is gratified that during the last three years of the new Agency more than 110,000 Bibles, approximately 200,000 New Testaments and over half a million Portions in some 40 languages have found their way into every part of Congo and Angola. This is a splendid example of the strategic importance of bringing together Bible Society resources into a Joint Agency in order to meet the pressing demands of a growing church. The total circulation of the last three years equals one half of the total circulation during the sixty-three previous years. With improved editions, such as diglot Portions with French on one side and Kikongo on the other, Illustrated New Testaments with attractive covers, new translations, the gradual completion of whole Bibles in eleven additional languages of Congo and Angola, and special Gospel distribution campaigns, the future of the Bible cause in the Congo Basin looks bright and challenging.

The Congo

In order to have sufficient Gospels on hand for the Billy Graham Liberia campaign, the American Bible Society produced and dispatched special editions of Bassa of Liberia and Loma St. John. Similar arrangements were made in connection with his campaigns in other countries.

The Bible Society also participated in other Bible work in Africa. A grant of 6,000 Illustrated Gospels and 7,500 copies of the Sermon on the Mount made possible a special distribution during Kenya Bible Week in East Africa. The Society also granted 5,000 Nyore New Testaments with Psalms and 4,000 Ragoli Bibles for distribution in Kenya. Other assistance included Tshwa New Testaments for South Africa, Luvale New Testaments for Rhodesia and Angola, Beti New Testaments to Cameroun and Malinké New Testaments to French West Africa.

EUROPE

THE American Bible Society assists in the distribution of Scriptures in many parts of Europe, including France, Belgium, Spain, East and West Germany, Austria, Hungary and Poland. Throughout Europe circulation is achieved with the aid of churches and bookstores, but chiefly through the work of Bible Society colporteurs.

Belgium

In Belgium, for example, colportage work is an absolute necessity. Here a team of 12 colporteurs supervised by the Belgian Bible Society personally introduced the Bible to the people speaking French, Flemish, Italian, Greek and German. They must not only speak about the Book, but often read some passages to the people in order to convince them that it is a good book, helpful to their spiritual life. Whenever possible the colporteurs encourage the scattered Protestant congregations to participate with them, so that the fruit of the colportage may be profitable to the life of the church. Difficult as this work is, some of the colporteurs have good results by giving a personal witness and leaving as a gift a Gospel Portion with the hearer to bear fruit later. The influence of the Bible display in the Pavilion at the Brussels Exposition in 1958 is also felt by these faithful "Book Agents of God."

France

The same necessity for colportage is true of France where the new French Bible Society has been organized, and a Home Secretary was appointed to acquaint the churches with the work of the French Bible Society, to encourage the distribution and use of the Bible among the parishes of France, to study new methods of Bible circulation and to increase the observance of Bible Sunday—a program that looks with great anticipation to the future.

Bibelmission, in West Germany, which celebrated its fifth anniversary last year, is a program designed to assist 24 regional Bible societies in an evangelistic distribution of the Scriptures, particularly among refugees from the East. Through this work, the American Bible Society cooperates with German Protestants in meeting the Scripture needs of refugees, servicemen, foreign students, and other ethnic groups, chiefly Italian and Greek laborers, in Germany. Three full-time Bible missionaries visit the refugee camps, give lectures and organize Bible exhibitions. During these five years 418,370 Bibles, Testaments and Portions were distributed, eighty-seven percent of which were circulated among exiles and refugees from the East. The American Bible Society also assists in the publication of Scriptures in East Germany through the Bibelanstalt at Altenberg, of which one of the most prized projects is the publication of the Illustrated Portions.

Germany

Three special projects included a supply of Scriptures for the American National Exposition in Moscow to replace Bibles reported to have been "removed or damaged by tremendous wear" and for the International Students, Incorporated, for distribution at the Communist sponsored World Youth Festival in Vienna. Five members of the student group who could speak Chinese, Spanish, Russian, Hungarian and Polish served as a Gospel team. A shipment of Hungarian Scriptures stored in Amsterdam has been dispatched to Budapest for distribution to the Hungarian churches in Yugoslavia, while in Hungary a supply of 40,000 Bibles recently produced appears to be sufficient to meet the present needs.

Communist
Areas

Refugees from the Soviet Zone attend a Bible Hour at a West German camp



THE FAR EAST

IT is difficult to comprehend the vastness of the easternmost region of Asia, commonly described by the people of the Western Hemisphere as the Far East. Extending from the borders of Manchuria to the most southern tip of the Indonesian Islands, it has a population of 796 million, with a forecast growth of 21 percent during the next decade. To make the Bible available for everyone in this churning area of the world requires the maximum effort of the Bible Societies, whether it be in Japan, highly industrialized and literate; in India with its crippling poverty and large areas of illiteracy, but on the move; in the Philippines with galloping inflation and remote villages on thinly populated islands, or in those countries on the threshold of the closed doors of China. The strategy and timing of effort may vary according to the country, but the goal is always the same—to introduce these teeming millions to the person of Jesus Christ as revealed in the written Word.

Korea

As the 50th anniversary of the translation of the Korean Bible draws near, it is interesting to note that during the last seven years the average annual circulation has been 703,522, for a grand total of 4,924,660. In view of the economic conditions of Korea since the war, this is a stunning testimony to the witness of the Korean Bible Society and its sister Societies around the world, not to mention the zeal and the faith of the Christian Church in Korea. During these years six primary means of distributing Scriptures have developed:

1. Specially designated bookstores that employ their own colporteurs.
2. Commissioned bookstores and booksellers, of which there are 214 who carry Scriptures.

The new Colloquial Japanese Bible is an important educational tool

Monkmeyer



3. Sixteen salaried colporteurs who are required to sell a minimum of 2,500 copies of Scripture Portions per month.
4. One hundred and twenty-eight auxiliary colporteurs who work solely on a commission basis.
5. Theological students who distribute Scriptures on week-ends and during holidays.
6. Free grants to ROK Armed Forces, prisons, hospitals, leper colonies, etc. (More than 60,000 were distributed in this way last year.)

The new Korean Bible Society office and warehouse will greatly facilitate the operations of the Society during the coming year.

The Japan Bible Society played an active part in the centennial anniversary of Protestant missions. A beautiful Centennial Bible was published, and the important place which the Bible had in the growth of Protestant missions during these past one hundred years was evident. The circulation goal of 1,900,000 was surpassed by 69,173 copies. Gratifying as this may be, the Bible Society is determined to develop every new method and test every former procedure, so that the outreach may be still greater. The very efficient colportage program of the Japan Bible Society, which began in 1938 and was revived in 1951 a few years after the war, accounts for two-thirds of the annual Scripture distribution. No Bible Society has such a well-organized program of colportage. Nine teams of four each visited twelve prefectures and distributed 1,206,212 copies of the Scriptures. These colporteurs have come from various professions and activities—businessmen, school teachers, army men, merchants, farmers, miners, pastors and housewives. Team leaders' conferences are held three times a year, and once a year a conference is held for all the colporteurs for instruction and

Japan

A shopping street in Hongkong, where the Bible House continues to supply Scriptures to Overseas Chinese

Philip Gendreau





Distributing the Scriptures in Korea

inspiration. Another growing phase of the distribution program in Japan is the circulating of Bibles and Testaments through bookstores. This past year the work of a special colporteur to bookstores has been so successful that the employment of others is anticipated. The Bible Van teams have also helped reach secular bookstores with the Scriptures. It was also one of the Bible vans that helped bring food, clothing and Scriptures to the victims of the typhoon disaster that struck Nagoya.

The Philippines

Early in December, Greater Manila was united in a cooperative reading and sharing of the Sermon on the Mount. The objective was to encourage people of the churches to read this greatest sermon in the world and to ask them to invite their friends, government employees and those in private companies, storekeepers, students and factory workers to read it. In each Portion was a message from His Excellency Carlos P. García, President of the Philippines, part of which was as follows:

This excerpt from the Holy Bible has been a rich source of spiritual inspiration for ages past, and its message has not lost its deep meaning and significance to the modern world. I have always maintained that whatever institutions man may build for his political, social and economic advancement, they cannot long endure if they are not founded on the rock of moral practices and upright living. The Word of God should then be our best guide, that we may live and work in peace and harmony with our fellow men and assure the continued progress of mankind in an atmosphere of Christian love and understanding. . . .

A total of 105,916 copies was distributed, and the entire Sermon

was printed in the "Manila Times." A "flood of requests" for Bibles and Testaments arrived at the Philippine Bible House as a result of the campaign. A similar campaign is being planned for Cebu, the second largest metropolis in the Philippines.

The Bible Van is being used by the churches in a new effort to employ Scripture distribution as a method of missionary outreach. Scripture grants have been made to the lepers, the blind, the sick in hospitals, the prisoners, the armed forces and the Scouts, a high light of which was the distribution of 12,000 copies of Scriptures to the Boy Scouts at the 10th World Jamboree. All of these programs helped the Philippine Bible House record the highest circulation in history (402,086, more than double the 1958 figure), and the arrival of the long-awaited revised Hiligaynon Bible is only an intimation of further advance in the Philippines when the other revisions and new translations are completed.

The Hongkong Bible House continues to be a strategic spiritual base for the supply of Scriptures, not only for its own polyglot population but for neighboring Bible Society agencies in Malaya, the Philippines and Thailand as they seek to minister to the thousands of overseas Chinese. Scriptures have also been sent to Burma and Indonesia, and requests for Chinese Scriptures have come from places as remote as Brazil, Madagascar and the Pacific island of Tahiti. Editions of the Thai Old Testaments and Vietnamese Bibles have also been printed in Hongkong, all of which helps account for a total production for the year amounting to almost 700,000 volumes. Ever since the Taiwan office was instituted on Formosa in 1956 special emphasis has been given to a Bible colportage program. Training classes, advance conferences, lectures and demonstrations have resulted in a circulation increase from 14,487 by four colporteurs in 1956 to 225,951 by eight colporteurs in 1959. In addition to these, volunteer Bible colporteurs from the theological colleges, Bible institutes and Christian universities have added their witness.

Hongkong

A tribute paid to the late Premanand Mahanty by the Central Council of the Bible Society of India and Ceylon recognized the steady advance in the outreach and range of the Society work which took place under his leadership. It also pointed up the results of that program during the past few years; e.g. the rise in the number of members and of branches, the growth in circulation, the new methods of distribution and the increase in contributions. In addition to supporting the regular budget of the Bible Society of India and Ceylon, the American Bible Society has given special support to the India Society's Opportunities Fund, which has helped develop all but one of twelve special distribution programs. One of these is the plan for the Bible in every Christian home. Last year 9,894 Bibles and 812 New Testaments in 17 languages were placed in needy homes. Churches are beginning to take greater interest in the plan and are meeting part of the

India



Monkmeyer

Delbi, India, where the Gospels are published serially in the daily newspapers

cost of Bibles for the program in their congregations.

Another important special project is newspaper evangelism, in which the Gospels are published serially in leading vernacular newspapers. This project is going on steadily in 11 languages at present and the number of readers is estimated to be about 600,000. During 1959 five of the Auxiliaries reported a total of 1,658 inquirers who became interested in the Christian Gospel through reading the Gospel in the paper each week. Other projects of the Opportunities Fund include Scriptures for matriculates and graduates, hospitals, prisons, boarding schools and hostels, schools and public libraries, Bible vans, subsidized bookshops, open Bible "Wayside Pulpits," of which there are 82 at present, and special distributions of the Sermon on the Mount in 17 languages, illustrated magazine Gospels now available in four major languages, with seven under preparation, and literacy Gospels of simplified translations printed with illustrations for new literates. Each of these projects contributed to the total circulation of 1,356,391 Scriptures—an increase of 58,705 over the previous year.

Thailand

In central Thailand, the motor launch continues to ply the waterways distributing Scriptures to remote villages, inaccessible except by canal. The launch stops at the doorsteps of the small Thai huts built on the canals, and the colporteur gives his witness to the power of the Gospel and offers the Scriptures to the family. Approximately 1,000 copies a month are distributed by Mr. Puk, a seminary student. On one occasion he was able to help a young man who called out, "I know about that book. Wait a minute." He went into his hut and got a copy of Thai St. John. Showing it proudly, he said, "When I was a soldier

in Korea, I was given this book. I read it and believed it, but I didn't know what to do about it." Early in the year it was necessary for Secretary Ming Chao to return to the United States on health leave, and since that time, Mr. Leon Wilder has been Acting Secretary and has given faithful attention to the challenging opportunities in Thailand.

THE NEAR EAST

POLITICAL and religious tensions continue to characterize life throughout this area, the cradle of our faith, and makes extremely difficult any long-range planning. Nevertheless, there have been signs of recovery and reconciliation. Most borders closed during last year's crises have been opened and many restrictions lifted. As these strife-torn nations seek to heal the wounds inflicted by recent conflicts, the message which provides for the "healing of the nations" is more urgently needed than ever before. All of the work has now been re-organized in one central office as the Bible Societies in the Near East and is administered as a Joint Agency with the British and Foreign Bible Society. It serves Egypt, Iraq, Arabia and the Gulf Area, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey and Greece. The new Secretary, Mr. James Weeks, although appointed in 1958, was not able to assume full administrative responsibility until last year because of the political strife. A team of twelve associates assists him and directs the distribution of the Scriptures through strategically located Bible depots, and the faithful efforts of the colporteurs—so often the "task force" of Bible Society work—and through correspondents who distribute the Scriptures, often sacrificially, and bear witness to their message of life. All of this has helped the total circulation for the Bible Societies in the Near East to increase from 289,167 volumes in 1957 to 344,303 volumes in 1959.

In India these children read the Marathi Bible in their home



Turkey

During the past year there have been two changes in the Turkish scene. Economically inflation caused prices to increase as much as 300 percent. Politically there was a more peaceful reaction in the religious community because of the agreement reached by Turkey and Greece with regard to Cyprus. Nevertheless, there has been a disappointing drop in the total circulation. A big factor, of course, was the economic situation. Another cause was the change in distribution emphasis. Usually the colporteurs concentrated on Portions, but this year they emphasized the New Testament and Bible. Although they were as successful in their efforts, the total distribution was not as great. An unusual distribution was carried out by Colporteur Yakup, who made a three-week trip to southeastern Turkey, an area in which there is a large community of people belonging to the Ancient Syriac (Jacobite) Church. Another intensified colportage effort took place in Antakya, ancient Antioch, where the followers of Jesus were first called Christians. Here a Protestant congregation was organized as the result of Colporteur Yakup's assistance in Scripture distribution.

Greece

Across the Aegean Sea, Greece reported, with thankfulness, increased opportunities to spread the Word of God under quiet and peaceful conditions. Scriptures were circulated in thirty languages, totaling 61,014 copies. Seven colporteurs covered the districts of Athens, the Eastern Peloponnesus, Epirus on the west and Thessaly on the north-east, the Aegean Islands and the Island of Crete. Each of the colporteurs also distributed a leaflet on the Bible and its use which was most helpful in reaching more people. A new project was the publication of a four-page leaflet about Bible Society work for distribution among the evangelical churches on Bible Sunday.

Lebanon Syria

Moving south and east across the northeastern part of the Mediterranean Sea we come to Lebanon and Syria. The religious situation in Lebanon continues to be very delicate, and in Syria Christians continued to have restricted liberty of worship. The Arabic magazine "The Bible in the World" was forbidden in three of the Arab states, but on the other hand a program of advertisements in the press as well as of posters inside and outside the tram cars and on the screen of several cinemas was intensified. Scriptures in Arabic and Armenian Braille were again donated to the schools for the blind in Beirut, and several passages in Arabic were recorded for those who cannot read Braille. Other Scriptures were granted in camps to Arab Palestinian refugees and in the prisons of Lebanon. The veteran colporteurs accounted for 41 percent of the total circulation. Two colporteurs traveled in the Bible van around Tyre and Sidon and later around Tripoli and mixed with proud Arabs in their flowing white gowns, half-veiled Moslem women, Jewish students with many questions and businessmen from Syria or Jordan and their wives in fashionable Western dress. "Everywhere the Bible!" exclaimed a nicely dressed Egyptian couple as they

passed one of the Bible displays. "We saw it sold in Italy. It was offered to us at the Brussels Fair. We remember seeing it sold in other places, but this time we are going to buy it from you."

Communication with the Bible depot in Baghdad was interrupted during the days of the revolution, but has been restored. Although distribution by colportage and from the depot has fallen off, the witness has gone on uninterrupted. Recently several Christian teachers have returned to resume their former duties, so that we are encouraged about the prospect of further Christian witness in this strategic country.

Iraq

Jordan has enjoyed a year of relative peace and quiet, so that more pilgrims and tourists have ventured to visit the Holy Land than in the last two years. Bible and New Testament circulation has increased, but Portion circulation has decreased because of the lack of a colporteur. Distribution, however, continues among the refugees, who form one-third of the population.

Jordan

The Scripture needs of Egypt are met through the services of three branch offices. One is located in Alexandria, the second capital of the country, with more than a million inhabitants. It has long been famous as the home of rich foreign merchants, many of whom left after the political crisis, a fact indicated by a decrease of foreign Scripture distribution from 25% in 1956 to 8% in 1959. In spite of this difficulty, the work has moved forward under the leadership of a strong auxiliary, so that there was still an increase of 11,000 Scriptures.

Egypt

Another branch is located in Cairo and in the Canal area. This is an important depot because it supplies all the colporteurs in Egypt and dispatches consignments of Scriptures to Lebanon, Jordan, Khartoum, Eritrea, and Abyssinia. Steps have been taken to introduce the Book for everyone into the United Arab Republic Army, the United States Embassy and Consulates. Voluntary colportage has been encouraged among all classes, churches, institutes, homes and schools. The selling of Scriptures on the ships at Port Said Harbor continues to be a most effective means of Scripture distribution among the sailors and passengers from different nations.

The Upper Egypt branch, through which a major part of the Bible Society's distribution of Scriptures is done, serves the eight provinces of the Upper Nile area. A greater part of the Coptic church population live here. Many important missions are also located in this area and have enjoyed freedom to circulate and preach the Gospel. The American Mission School at Assiut has become a center of education for all of Upper Egypt, and has helped to create a climate of understanding most helpful to the colportage work of the Society, the only method of distribution carried on by this branch. The Sermon on the Mount in the newly revised Arabic revision has been eagerly received.

Sudan

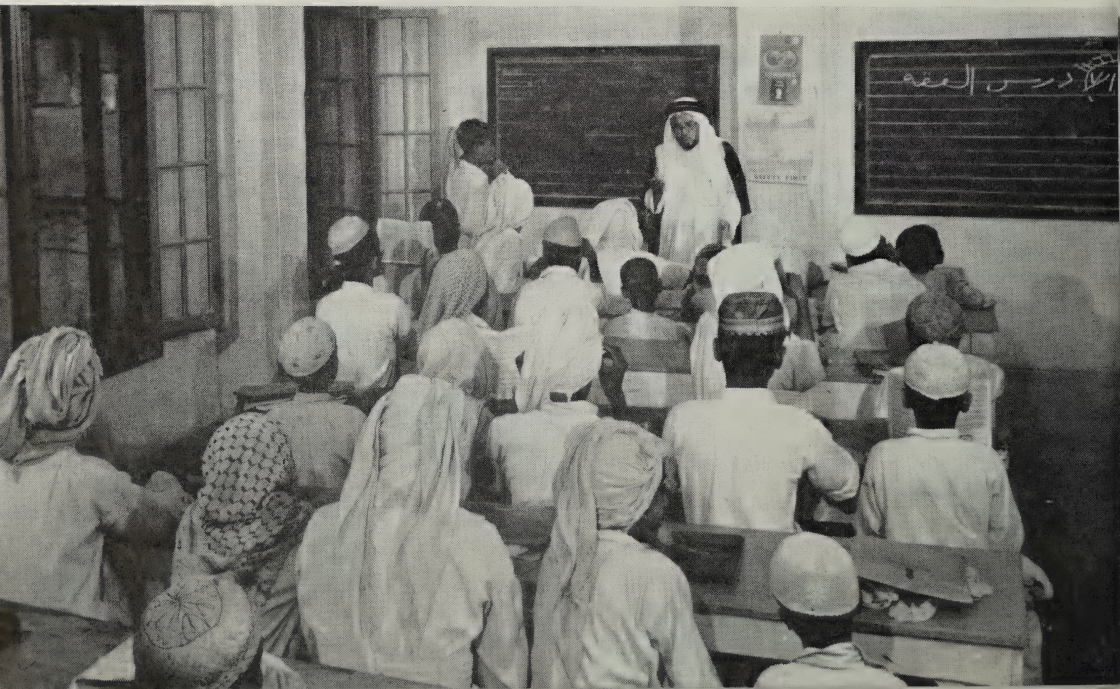
Liberty for the distribution of the Scriptures and other religious literature is far above our expectations, and we are grateful to the Government and the people of the Sudan for their tolerance. This is the good word from Khartoum. The only colporteur in the south of the country has traveled over 2,000 miles, carrying the Word of God to his people in the homes, markets, shops, and fields. Although his work is extremely difficult, he is affectionately known everywhere as "the man on the cycle with the Book."

Israel

The Bible is read more than any other book in Israel. Thirty percent of the curriculum of the schools consists of Bible reading. More than 80 countries are represented in Israel's population, and although most are able to read in Hebrew, there is a great demand for Scriptures in other languages. Previously all Scriptures were imported from abroad, but in 1959 the Hebrew Bible was printed in Israel for the first time. At a reception given by the President, Isac Ben Zvi, for church dignitaries, he was presented with the first two volumes bound in leather, one consisting of both the Old and New Testaments and the other only of the Old Testament. On the same day a similar presentation was made to Prime Minister Ben Gurion. Since the Hebrew Bibles are now available, circulation should increase more rapidly and add substantially to the nine-year total of 136,600 copies.

These boys in Saudi Arabia will soon be able to use the improved translation of the Arabic Bible in their classroom

Monkmeyer



GOD'S LIGHT IN MAN'S DARKNESS

ONE morning a stranger with dark glasses came into the Atlanta office and told this story to Secretary Wise: "When I was a soldier in the first World War, a chaplain handed me a New Testament and said that it was a gift from the Bible Society and my home church. This little book was the only connection I had with my family and my church and God during those bitter days of bloody battle. I promised God that I would some day pay the Society for this book. In recent years I have lived for a while in physical darkness. The only Scriptures I could use were those of the Talking Book records. I would like to suggest that this check for \$1,000 be used to bring the light of the world to those who live in physical darkness." This brings into sharp focus the American Bible Society's work for the blind, now in its 125th year, and emphasizes the determination of the Society to make the Bible the Book for every man in every condition.

Distribution to the sightless at home and overseas reached its high-est peak in 1959 when there was a steady increase in calls for the Scriptures, both in Braille and on Talking Book records, for a total of 73,194 and a grand total of 790,035 since 1835. Many deaf-blind persons also rejoiced in having their very own Bibles after several years in physical darkness. Besides in English the embossed Scriptures went out during the year to the sightless in French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, Greek, Hebrew, Armenian, Italian, Chinese, Turkish, Korean, Japanese, and Hausa (Nigeria) Braille.

New publications for 1959 included the Book of Genesis in Spanish Braille and the Small Volume of Scripture Passages in Hausa

Blind students in Korea read their Braille Gospels



Braille; and on Talking Book records, the Small Volume of Scripture Passages in French, Spanish and Arabic. Three tons of Braille paper were sent to Korea. This was urgently needed for the printing of the Bible in Korean Braille. A new printing of the English Braille Concordance was required to meet additional appeals from ministers, Sunday-school teachers, Bible students and librarians. For the eighth year, the Society published the Worldwide Bible Reading Bookmark entitled "The Everlasting Light" in Braille.

The Bible is the favorite book of those in physical darkness and numerous letters of appreciation and gratitude from happy recipients reveal the constant inspiration and joy it brings in their daily living. A blind veteran wrote, "I was stymied in my class work because of the reading requirements but over the year I received from you the complete Bible on Talking Book records. They have brought me through my difficulty and I have gained immeasurable help from their daily use. Thank you for our kindness." A resident at a Home for the Aged expresses her gratitude in this way: "I have five dollars which I want to contribute for the work you are doing for the blind. What you are doing is a great blessing for us who cannot see. I prize my Bible very much." From a new blind friend comes this word, "I want you to know how grateful and delighted I am with my Bible and for the wonderful work along this line in portraying God's Word to the unfortunate, blind or otherwise. This is His gracious means for blessing man. 'Blessed is he that readeth, blessed is he that heareth but more blessed is he that doeth the Word.'"

SCRIPTURE PRODUCTION

THE Bible has to be set in type, printed, bound, and shipped to points of distribution. This is the important task of the Production and Supply Department of the Bible Society. It operates outside the General Budget. Thus the gift dollar is completely free for the worldwide missionary purpose of the Society. Our Scriptures are produced primarily for our own missionary needs, without note or comment, but are available to our supporting constituency so that they may enter into our labor of making God's Word available to everyone. Production in the United States in terms of manufactured bound volumes reached the considerable figure of 15,805,297, of which 14,220,689 volumes were issued from the Bible House, New York. This is an increase of 2,155,375 over 1958. The Bible House also assists Bible Societies and Agencies in the supply of paper, printing plates or mats and financing, all of which helps the publication of the Scriptures at the field bases of operations, such as Rio de Janeiro, Mexico City, Manila, Bangkok, Leopoldville, Cairo, and by associated Societies. The total production program of the Bible Society cannot be recorded at

this time. The details will appear later in a special Executive Officers' Report, but a few special items deserve mention:

The following new editions came off the press in 1959: For Mexico: Totonac-Spanish New Testament; Tzeltal de Bachajón Luke; for Nicaragua and Honduras: Miskito-Spanish Psalms in diglot form; for Panama: San Blas Romans; for Peru: Ayacucho-Spanish New Testament in diglot form; for Haiti: Haitian Creole Galatians, Hebrews, Revelation; for Caroline Islands: Palau Mark; for Philippine Islands: Hiligaynon Bible, New Testament and New Testament with Psalms; for Cameroun, Africa: Beti New Testament; for Spanish Guinea: Kombe-Spanish Mark in diglot form; for Liberia: Kpelle Mark and John.

New Editions

The Finger-fono program launched in 1957 is no longer in the experimental stage. Requests have come from many countries. Twenty-six languages and dialects now have Finger-fono recordings of selected Scripture passages, of which more than 121,000 have been pressed and 130,000 are on order. English Finger-fono records will be available in 1960 and it has been necessary to place a second order of 30,000 Spanish recordings.

Finger-Fono

Since the inception of the program of presenting the Sermon on the Mount in a separate issue, more than eleven million volumes have been issued in Amharic, English, French, Greek, Hungarian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, and Spanish. Of this almost a million were in diglot form. In addition to this, more than a million volumes have been produced in India in 16 languages.

Sermon on the Mount

The Society has been producing these special Christmas and Easter Portions since 1952. The interest of the churches and the public at large has increased from year to year. Last year was the first time a special Portion of the Christmas story was prepared in special format and it proved so popular that plans for 1960 call for a print order of ten million.

Christmas and Easter Portions

EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

THE thrilling task of telling the exciting story of the Bible in the world today is the responsibility of the Education and Information Department. There are three main channels of information.

The first is the *Bible Society Record*, now in its 105th year of continuous publication. It now reaches more than 700,000 readers ten times a year. Over a hundred thousand of these are ministers of the

Bible Society Record

churches who were added to the list upon recommendation of the Advisory Council. The others are those who, as members of the Bible Society family, have shared in the work through their gifts. Through the *Record's* interesting and attractive format, the staff seeks to keep up a steady flow of the inside story of the worldwide program of the Bible Society.

Publicity

A second important channel is that of general information to the public. This includes news releases, feature articles and interviews with staff personnel for the secular and religious press. Programs are also prepared for radio and television. Last year more than five hundred radio stations used our recorded one-minute Bible Reading spots from Thanksgiving to Christmas and 346 women commentators used a specially prepared kit of material which was called "The Bible, Handbook for Housewives." The kit included a recorded interview with Miss Faith Baldwin. For seventeen years, the Bible Society has conducted a weekly Bible quiz program, "The Living Bible," as a public service feature of station WNEW, New York. The Bible Society has never bought such time, but rather has endeavored to cooperate with existing programs, either commercial or public-service, thus reaching as many people as possible through a minimum of expense.

Audio-Visual

Another major channel of information is the Audio-Visual Department. During the past year, a major film, "Footsteps of Livingstone," and two filmstrips, "Congo Close-up" and "Congo Handclasp," were produced. They were most timely, since the mission study theme of most of the churches was Africa. One denominational fellowship designated the film as its official mission study documentary for the year. Altogether this department processed 14,895 bookings which included rentals, sales, and leases of films and filmstrips and other Audio-Visual items.

THE USE AND STUDY OF THE BIBLE

THE Society's efforts to encourage the use of the Bible by those who possess it rest upon two considerations. The first is a desire to stimulate the work which the churches, as primarily responsible, should do in this matter. The second is that unless the Bible is adequately valued and used by the people of the churches—and beyond—the Society will have greater difficulty in securing the resources to pursue its primary task, namely, the worldwide circulation of the Scriptures to all men. There are four aspects to these efforts.

Study Programs

Following the important study of the use of the Bible in evangelism, the United Bible Societies are undertaking a worldwide five-year study of the use of the Bible in the churches to stimulate thought on

this important subject, to discover ways in which the Bible is used creatively in the life of the churches, and to secure exchange of experiences among the churches. Secretary Carl Larson, of the former Northwestern District, assumed full responsibility for this program in the United States during the year. The program calls for a maximum of 250 case studies, several city and state-wide surveys and a pilot study of the use of the Bible in Buffalo, New York. At the end of the year Secretary Limkemann of the Central America Agency was appointed Study Secretary for Latin America. Both Mr. Larson and Mr. Jacob Limkemann will work very closely with the Rev. Edwin H. Robertson, who is Study Secretary for the worldwide program.

Called the "world's largest Bible-reading class," it is safe to estimate that at least one hundred million people had the opportunity to read something about the Worldwide Bible Reading program or to be invited to read the Bible selections prepared in bookmark form through the medium of the secular press or religious press or through radio and television. This program started seventeen years ago and has grown so rapidly that it now reaches more than forty countries.

**Worldwide
Bible Reading**

The high point of the Worldwide Bible Reading program is Universal Bible Week, the first full week in December. Approximately 180,000 packets, including a poster, brochure, sample bulletin and other pertinent information, are sent annually to ministers, chaplains and lay leaders.

**Universal
Bible Week**

The final aspect is the provision of literature to stimulate Bible reading. The principal item is the year-long Bible Reading list, of which more than a million are requested annually and are reprinted nation-wide in church calendars and devotional books, such as "The Upper Room." The size of the program and the demand for materials makes it difficult to know just how much budget should be allocated to this important phase of the Bible Society's program. Needless to say, it is a pleasant problem.

Reading Aids

SHARING THE BIBLE

THE Bible can become the Book for everyone only as everyone who has a Bible shares "as God hath prospered him." The Bible Society offers many methods of giving to share the Bible—gifts sent directly to the Society, gifts made through churches, annuity investments, life income agreements, trust funds, memorial gifts and legacies. Each one showed a healthy increase in 1959. Budget income exceeded budget expense by \$32,235. This is the first time in seven years the Society did not have to spend principal funds to carry on its work. This is

real cause for rejoicing until one contemplates the inadequacy of the total amount compared with the urgent needs described in this report, and remembers that six previous years of budget deficits caused the Society to spend \$302,568 more than was received in general budget income.

Seal Campaign

The annual Christmas Seal campaign added 141,964 new contributors to the Society. Many members of the Society sent lists of names of people who might be interested in receiving the seals and in giving to share the Bible. The seals were mailed at once to arrive before Christmas. Friends of the Bible Society addressed thousands of envelopes for the mailing. There was insufficient time to compare every name with our list of members, and this therefore meant that some members of the Society received duplicate appeal-letters. Even if there had been time to compare lists, the cost would have been far too high. With their usual helpfulness, cooperation and understanding most members either used the seals or shared them with someone else. This is understandable in view of the fact that the Society started this program twenty-one years ago—a program that has continued to grow in the midst of mounting numbers of appeals through the mail. The program uses the best techniques of secular direct mail for spiritual purposes. Every appeal letter calls and recalls Americans to the use of the Bible. As a result in 1959 the Society received 646,869 individual gifts for a net total of \$1,449,970. The present goal is 1,000,000 gifts a year. Surely this is not too much to hope for from a nation of people whose cherished ideals are rooted in the Bible.

Church Support

Since the Bible is the Book for everyone the churches have a responsibility for making it universally available. More than 55 denominations use the American Bible Society as their arm for reaching out with the Scriptures in the languages of the peoples of the world. It is encouraging to report that the churches are giving evidence of a greater interest in the work of the Society, and many denominations are endeavoring to raise the level of their giving for Bible distribution and translation. The number of church leaders who are challenging the peoples of the churches to help meet the urgent need for Scriptures is growing each year. Recent Advisory Council meetings have drawn an increasing number of denominational representatives to New York to examine reports, recommend the annual budget, and to give guidance to the Society's program and staff. The 1959 meeting was attended by 142 persons, representing 47 denominations, 3 associations, and the British and Foreign Bible Society in Canada.

During 1959 the churches of America gave the American Bible Society a total of \$955,135. This represents an increase of \$59,713 over the amount received in 1958, and is the largest increase in a single year since the years of the War Emergency Fund. The Advisory Council of 1959 reaffirmed the goal of \$1,400,000 for the churches and urged that, wherever possible, the American Bible Society be brought

into a closer relationship with the official organization of each denomination, and that the American Bible Society staff explore the most effective liaison contacts to accomplish this goal.

This sound, well-established program of more than a century continues to be a valuable method of sharing the Scriptures around the world. Last year more annuity agreements (1,420) were established than in any previous year in the Society's history for a total of \$1,419,604. With a maximum guaranteed lifetime income of 7.4% many people desiring to make their best possible contribution to the worldwide ministry of Scripture distribution are finding the annuity plan ideally suited to their needs. Its liberal tax privileges, in addition to its generous and guaranteed lifetime payments, contribute to the material security of the annuitant and at the same time give important help to the distribution of God's Word in the many languages of mankind. Gifts to the Society on the annuity plan have made it possible to assign \$525,000 to the Society's work in 1960.

Annuities

Important assistance for the provision of God's Word is received each year through bequests in the wills of Christian people. In 1959, 168 unrestricted legacies were received by the American Bible Society in the amount of \$343,325.06. This liberal help and the experience of recent years have given the officers faith to believe that \$380,000.00 can be assigned to the Society's work in this country and overseas in 1960 from legacy income. To assist friends of the Society who request information about the preparation of their wills there is available upon request a pamphlet which gives specific and valuable guidance in the preparation of a will.

Legacies

The second full year of this new program of Life Income Agreements showed a gratifying increase of 48% over 1958. Eighty-two agreements were issued totaling \$538,371.84. It is interesting to note that in 1959 agreements producing tax-exempt income exceeded regular life income agreements:

Life Income

Regular	\$237,657.10
Tax-exempt	300,714.74

This plan of gift investment enables friends of the Society to give valuable assistance to its ministry and derive the following personal benefits:

- - - guaranteed income for life;
- - - reduction of income tax through a gift deduction;
- - - elimination of capital gains tax on transferred securities;
- - - reduction of estate tax;
- - - provision of life income for heirs.

Life Income Agreements which start with a \$1,000.00 minimum, in 1960 will yield a taxable income for the full year at a rate of 5.349%. Agreements for \$5,000.00 or more will provide an entirely tax-free income of 3.75%—4%. Information on Legacies, Annuity Agreements and the Life Income Plan may be obtained by writing to American Bible Society, 450 Park Avenue, New York 22, New York, Attention: The Rev. A. Paul Wright.

This factual report of the year's progress is made with deep appreciation to all who have given so generously and with genuine concern that their number shall increase.

Personnel Changes

During the year Ralph E. McGill of Atlanta, Georgia, was elected a Vice President. The resignations of Reginald S. Wareham and Charles M. Kinsolving were accepted with appreciation of their services.

Executive Secretaries Paul A. Collyer, Richard H. Ellingson and Roy I. Madsen resigned to accept other positions. Associate Secretary Wright was advanced to Executive Secretary, and Assistant Secretary Reimer to Associate Secretary. Pursuant to an amendment to the By-Laws, Secretaries Taylor and Holmgren were elected Administrative Secretaries.

Rev. Dr. John H. McCombe was appointed Fraternal Secretary to the Japan Bible Society. District Secretary Gerald E. Boyce of Syracuse was elected an Associate Secretary at Headquarters. District Secretary Carl W. Larson of Minneapolis was appointed Study Secretary on the Use of the Bible in the United States. Division Secretary James E. Jones was transferred from Dallas to Birmingham. Rev. Daniel López de Lara was appointed Secretary of the Mexico Agency to succeed the late Rev. Francisco Estrello.

The Board of Managers record with deep regret the deaths reported during 1959 of the following:

BOARD MEMBERS

MRS. STEPHEN L. ANGELLAugust 7

BIBLE SOCIETY PERSONNEL

REV. BISHOP EIVIND BERGGRAV, leader and first
President of the United Bible SocietiesJanuary 14
REV. FRANCISCO ESTRELLO, Secretary of the Mexico
AgencyApril 30

THE ANNUAL MEETING

The 143rd Annual Meeting of the American Bible Society met on May 14, 1959 in the Parish House of the Fifth Presbyterian Church, New York City, President Burke in the Chair. The Annual Report of the Board of Managers was presented and approved. The following were elected Managers for the terms indicated: Class of 1963: Regi-

nald S. Wareham, Conover English, Charles T. Lee, Mrs. J. Rexford van Gorder, George F. Perkins, Faulkner Lewis, Charles M. Kinsolving, David G. McCornack, Byron S. Ralston, W. Hoffman Benjamin, Coleman Burke, Chester J. Jump; Class of 1962: W. Albert Stanbury, Jr.

The following were elected Vice Presidents: Mrs. Howard L. Roach, J. Harvie Wilkinson, Jr., Luther W. Youngdahl, A. Crawford Greene, W. Maxey Jarman, Howard R. Bowen, Marshall Field, Jr.

The following were elected Honorary Life Members: Rev. Kenneth G. Case, Rev. Homer C. Emerson, Rev. François Akoa, Rev. Paul Caufrier, Rev. Bishop Isabelo de los Reyes, Rt. Rev. F. Donald Coggan.

Scriptures were presented to representatives of the new States of Alaska and Hawaii and the motion picture, "Footsteps of Livingstone," was shown.

RECEIPTS FROM CHURCHES

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR REGULAR WORK

<i>Denominations</i>	<i>Membership</i>	<i>1959</i>	<i>1958</i>
Advent Christian	30,586	\$1,194.32	\$1,032.35
Adventists, Seventh Day	301,826	27,166.49	26,289.73
Assemblies of God	505,552	3,816.88	2,541.63
Baptist, American	1,555,360	38,747.91	37,570.47
Baptist, Free Will	184,287	317.82	488.36
Baptist, Nat'l Conv., U.S.A., Inc.	5,000,000	2,002.15	2,971.72
Baptist, Nat'l Conv. of America	2,668,799	200.00	174.88
Baptist, Seventh Day	5,963	370.74	294.59
Baptist, Southern	9,202,205	144,199.72	162,198.71
Brethren	200,282	2,285.71	2,349.38
Christian Churches (Disciples)	1,943,599	28,382.87	28,416.70
Christian Missionary Alliance	56,523	835.64	925.23
Christian Reformed	228,905	9,356.93	7,066.57
Church of God, Anderson, Ind.	133,214	668.97	502.07
Church of God, Cleveland, Tenn.	155,541	2,015.38	2,525.16
Church of God, Other Groups .....	.....	643.05	881.35
Community Churches .....	.....	2,377.19	2,278.88
United Church of Christ (Cong'l) ...	1,381,124	13,658.83	12,254.40
Evangelical Congregational	29,380	1,742.08	1,440.88
Evangelical Free Church	31,192	789.73	1,958.66
Evangelical Covenant	57,414	2,133.26	1,954.23
United Church of Christ (Ev. & Refd.)	806,365	8,040.46	9,826.07
Evangelical United Brethren	749,188	14,479.39	12,977.36
Lutheran, American	973,951	22,229.63	16,530.50
Lutheran, American Evangelical	23,000	427.85	417.06
Lutheran, Augustana	582,560	13,147.22	13,197.66
Lutheran, Evangelical	1,092,866	24,127.97	23,230.08
Lutheran, Finnish (Suomi Synod)	35,963	421.37	338.25
Lutheran, Free	80,248	1,017.59	1,657.07
Lutheran, Missouri	2,234,844	53,331.33	39,876.91

RECEIPTS FROM CHURCHES—*Continued*

<i>Denominations</i>	<i>Membership</i>	<i>1959</i>	<i>1958</i>
Lutheran, Slovak Evangelical	18,003	\$683.20	\$231.35
Lutheran, United	2,293,902	34,939.32	35,756.89
Lutheran, United Evangelical	63,718	885.88	724.50
Lutheran, Wisconsin	342,993	543.13	385.48
Mennonites	106,669	16,844.66	15,603.92
Methodist	9,670,690	156,244.27	147,934.83
Methodist Episcopal, African	1,166,301	3,089.19	3,131.20
Methodist Episcopal, African Zion	780,000	2,239.22	2,025.00
Methodist Episcopal, Christian	392,167	2,223.37	1,764.97
Methodist, Free	54,942	890.71	816.53
Methodist, Primitive	12,844	2,066.53	1,637.61
Methodist, Wesleyan	42,644	2,591.98	3,398.22
Moravians, North and South	60,415	3,070.26	3,317.51
Nazarene	291,036	20,424.81	15,744.62
Presbyterian, Associate Reformed	27,561	3,240.64	3,523.38
Presbyterian, Cumberland	87,531	2,361.20	1,910.47
Presbyterian, Reformed (Cov.)	6,348	3,050.67	1,841.95
Presbyterian, U.S.	869,452	39,458.54	38,270.85
Presbyterian, United, U.S.A.	3,094,633	108,410.62	89,814.85
Protestant Episcopal	3,042,286	25,940.57	12,185.77
Reformed in America	216,096	19,141.15	19,360.02
Miscellaneous .....	.....	45,851.46	52,576.00
Chaplains .....	.....	35,475.06	25,606.93
Pending Allocation .....	.....	5,340.71	3,692.29
.....	.....	<u>\$955,135.63</u>	<u>\$895,422.05</u>

"The Advisory Council is aware of the fact that the budget of the American Bible Society, however challenging, reflects only in part the new dimensions of the global task. In a time when every church is setting new goals and making greater sacrifices for the church's world mission, it is essential that the availability of the Holy Scriptures be similarly increased. The reverse trend in giving by the churches, which although gradually increasing their gifts, covers a smaller proportion of the American Bible Society's program (from 38% in 1948 to 24% in 1958) is a source of concern to the Advisory Council. It is recommended that every cooperating denomination establish new goals of support for the American Bible Society commensurate with the increased budget allocations for the church's world mission."

—1959 Advisory Council

GENERAL BUDGET

Income	Churches:	<i>Receipts</i>	<i>Budget</i>
1959	Regular	\$883,623.11	
	Seals	35,994.76	
	Sunday-school Project	35,517.76	
	.....	<u>\$955,135.63</u>	<u>\$1,100,000.00</u>

Individuals:		
Regular	\$629,112.91	
Seals	593,116.99	
Calendars	207,233.25	
	<u>\$1,429,463.15</u>	<u>\$1,350,000.00</u>
Auxiliaries	12,099.80	15,000.00
Returns from Scriptures Donated	12,643.22	20,000.00
Total Gifts from Living Donors	\$2,409,341.80	\$2,485,000.00
Investment Income	701,848.39	650,000.00
Legacies (applied)	350,000.00	350,000.00
Annuities (applied)	400,000.00	400,000.00
	<u>\$3,861,190.19</u>	<u>\$3,885,000.00</u>

	<i>Expenses</i>	<i>Budget</i>
General Administration	\$159,893.79	\$146,201.00
Treasurer's Office	74,925.61	69,945.00
Ways and Means	376,973.32	341,639.00
Educational Publicity	605,584.76	587,078.00
Translation and Revision	314,804.11	288,758.00
Distribution U.S.A.	935,949.91	964,417.00
Distribution Abroad	1,243,395.91	1,486,962.00
Special Items	117,427.36	.....
	<u>\$3,828,954.77</u>	<u>\$3,885,000.00</u>

Expense
1959

	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenses</i>
General Budget	\$3,861,190.19	\$3,828,954.77
Publication Department:		
Sales in U.S.A. and to other Bible Societies	1,023,007.47	1,023,007.47
	<u>\$4,884,197.66</u>	<u>\$4,851,962.24*</u>

Summary of
Income and
Expense 1959

DISTRIBUTION IN THE UNITED STATES 1959

<i>National Distribution Offices</i>	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Atlantic	30,879	29,559	429,175	489,613
Birmingham	539	1,206	66,723	68,468
Central	36,718	68,811	835,072	940,601
Chicago	23,453	45,895	427,230	496,578
Cleveland	4,563	3,163	66,488	74,214
Dallas	591	327	15,357	16,275
Eastern	52,076	47,915	671,627	771,618
Maryland	12,639	11,830	307,920	332,389
Northwestern	35,051	48,988	455,518	539,557

* In addition, the Publication Department expended \$1,075,872.27 (included in the \$3,828,954.77 above) for the purchase or production of Scriptures charged to the General Budget, making a total publication operation of \$2,098,879.74.

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Pacific	63,972	100,382	884,835	1,049,189
Richmond	2,772	2,341	58,059	63,172
Rocky Mountain	24,660	32,490	390,683	447,833
South Atlantic	27,898	79,356	570,172	677,426
Southern	55,950	170,171	1,289,085	1,515,206
Southwestern	56,356	189,525	716,366	962,247
Totals	428,117	831,959	7,184,310	8,444,386
Distribution to the Blind			65,134	65,134
Headquarters Grants to the Armed Forces and Veterans Hospitals .	79,325	224,853	733,437	1,037,615
Other Headquarters Grants	10,589	11,144	359,723	381,456
Headquarters Sales	13,155	4,067	123,146	140,368
Totals—Headquarters	103,069	240,064	1,281,440	1,624,573
Total Distribution in the United States	<u>531,186</u>	<u>1,072,023</u>	<u>8,465,750</u>	<u>10,068,959</u>

DISTRIBUTION OVERSEAS 1959

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Cuba	16,251	32,936	414,353	463,540
Puerto Rico	15,528	20,379	125,190	161,097
Dominican Republic	5,798	5,599	107,452	118,849
Virgin Islands	708	474	100	1,282
Haiti	2,719	2,525	10,053	15,297
Mexico	34,086	11,092	332,356	377,534
El Salvador	4,880	5,177	87,683	97,740
Honduras	3,351	1,990	51,895	57,236
Nicaragua	2,209	2,391	52,226	56,826
Costa Rica	3,475	2,043	32,451	37,969
Panama	2,985	1,094	12,059	16,138
Canal Zone	938	669	7,343	8,950
Guatemala	11,991	9,718	191,490	213,199
Colombia	11,223	6,786	188,627	206,636
Venezuela	7,897	6,152	59,905	73,954
Ecuador	1,506	1,105	19,513	22,124
Peru	11,453	5,017	65,922	82,392
Bolivia	3,411	4,284	33,992	41,687
Chile	10,582	16,332	69,934	96,848
Argentina	30,389	16,349	364,046	410,784
Paraguay	911	793	2,706	4,410
Uruguay	2,807	1,234	38,712	42,753
Through Brazil Bible Society	166,791	41,284	1,002,398	1,210,473
Totals, Latin America	<u>351,889</u>	<u>195,423</u>	<u>3,270,406</u>	<u>3,817,718</u>

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Liberia	773	346	2,556	3,675
Congo Basin	17,907	36,875	62,879	117,661
Turkey	1,020	634	4,836	6,490
Greece	3,020	6,837	20,650	30,507
Syria-Lebanon	2,391	2,624	24,892	29,907
Iraq	323	316	4,308	4,947
Jordan	1,705	4,216	6,803	12,724
Egypt	4,686	10,439	60,341	75,466
Sudan	591	2,213	3,526	6,330
Israel	2,756	1,290	1,738	5,784
Thailand	1,284	2,945	451,696	455,925
Philippines	29,297	22,483	348,106	399,886
Hongkong	13,666	11,392	158,510	183,568
Through Korean Bible Society ...	9,160	51,743	171,906	232,809
Through Japan Bible Society	59,973	295,162	950,008	1,305,143
Through Bible Society of India ..	29,828	32,574	451,670	514,072
Through German Bible Societies..	19,836	34,153	112,631	166,620
Through French Bible Society	24,844	24,061	59,052	107,957
Through Belgian Bible Society ...	4,552	2,999	29,679	37,230
Totals	227,612	543,302	2,925,787	3,696,701

Totals, Overseas Agencies and Societies	579,501	738,725	6,196,193	7,514,419
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Home Office Grants to:

Africa	430	3,495	15,000	18,925
Europe	2,399	681	4,007	7,087
Pacific Islands	1,036	32	1,600	2,668
Miscellaneous	80	24	58	162
Greek Special	15	31,287	7,395	38,697
Totals	3,960	35,519	28,060	67,539

Total Distribution Overseas	583,461	774,244	6,224,253	7,581,958
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In addition the ABS and its Overseas Agencies made available through sales to other Bible Societies and Agencies the following Scriptures:

	<i>Bibles</i>	<i>Testaments</i>	<i>Portions</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Overseas Agencies Sales to other Bible Societies	4,361	3,364	53,634	61,359
Home Office Sales to Overseas Bible Societies	19,254	7,442	144,067	170,763
Field Depository Sales to Overseas Areas	6	1	63	70
Totals	23,621	10,807	197,764	232,192
Total Distribution, U.S.A.	531,186	1,072,023	8,465,750	10,068,959
Total Distribution Overseas	583,461	774,244	6,224,253	7,581,958
Grand Totals, 1959	1,114,647	1,846,267	14,690,003	17,650,917

During 1959 Scriptures were Distributed in 296
Languages and 37 additional characters* = 333

Scriptures in 195 languages and characters were issued from the Bible House; they were circulated in 153 in the United States and in 260 by the Overseas Department and associated Bible Societies for which the American Bible Society provides subsidies and whose circulation is reported elsewhere in these pages.

Asia—104

Amis
Arabic
* (Carshuni characters)
Armenian: Ancient
Armenian: Modern:
Ararat
Armenian: Modern:
Western
Bunnun
Burmese
Cambodian
Chinese: Kuoyü
Chinese: Easy Wenli
Chinese: Amoy
Colloquial
Chinese: Canton
Colloquial
Chinese: Hakka
Hebrew
India and Pakistan:
Assamese
Bengali
Bengali:
Musalmanni
Biete
Boroni
Gangte
Garö
Gujarati
Hindi
Hindi:
Chhattisgarhi
Hindustani
Hmar
Kanarese
Khasi
Khondi (Kui)
Kom Rem
Kurukh
Lakher
Lepcha
Lushai
Malayalam
Malto
Manipuri
Marathi
Marathi: Konkani
Mikir
Mundari
Naga: Angami
Naga: Ao
Naga: Kabui
Naga: Konyak
Naga: Lhota
Naga: Mzieme
Naga: Rengma
Naga: Sema
Naga: Tangkhul
Naga: Zeme
Nicobarese: Car
Oriya
Paite
Panjabi
Riang
Sanskrit
Santali (Roman characters)
* (Bengali characters)
Sindhi
Sinhalese
Tamil
Telugu
Thado: Kuki
Urdu (Persian characters)

* (Nagri characters)
* (Roman characters)
Vaiphei
Japanese
Karen: Sqaw
Korean
Kurdish:
Kermanshahi
Kurdish: Kurmanji
Kurdish: Mukri
Lahu
Mongolian
Nepali
Paiwan
Pashtu
Persian
Syriac: Ancient
Syriac: Modern
Tai: Lao
Tai: Lu
Tai: Thai
Tibetan
Turkish:
Azerbaijani
Turkish: Kashgar
Turkish: Osmanli
(Roman characters)
* (Arabic characters)
* (Armenian characters)
* (Greek characters)
Turkish: Uzbek
Vietnamese
(Annamese)
FOR THE BLIND
* Arabic Braille
* Arabic Talking
Book Records
* Armenian Braille
* Chinese (Kuoyü)
Braille
* Hebrew Braille
* Hindi Braille
* Japanese Braille
* Korean Braille
* Turkish Braille

Europe—43

Albanian
Basque: Labourdin
Bulgarian
Czech
Danish
Dutch
Esperanto
Estonian
Finnish
French
Frisian
Gaelic
German
Greek: Ancient
Greek: Modern
Hungarian
Icelandic
Irish
Italian
Latin
Lettish
Lithuanian
Maltese
Norwegian

Polish
Rumanian
Russian
Russian: White
Serbo-Croatian
Slovak
Slovenian
Spanish: Judaeo-Spanish
Swedish
Ukrainian
Welsh
Yiddish
FOR THE BLIND
* French Braille
* French Talking
Book Records
* German Braille
* Greek Braille: Ancient
* Greek Braille: Modern
* Italian Braille

Africa—68

Afrikaans
Amharic
Anuak
Bandi
Banga
Bassa of Liberia
Bemba
Beti
Bobangi
Bulu
Chokwe
Combe
Coptic: Boharic
Efik
Ethiopic
Fante
Ga
Gio
Hausa
Ibo
Kabba-Laka
Kabyle
Kele: Congo
Kingwana: Ituri
Kituba
Kongo: Fioti
Kongo: San
Kongo: Salvador
Kpelle
Lendu Batha
Lingala
Loma
Luba: Kalebwe
Luba: Kalunda
Luba: Kaonde
Luba: Katanga
Luba: Lulua
(Chiluba)
Luba: Sanga
Luchazi
Lur
Luvale
Malagasy
Mano
Mende
Mongo-Nkundu
Moré
Ngandu
Ngombe
Nyore
Otetela
Pende

Popo
Ragoli
Ruanda
Rundi
Sango
Shilluk
Shona
Songo
Swahili: Congo
Swahili: Union
Tonga Inhambane
Tshwa
Umbundu
Yoruba
Zanaki
Zande
Zulu
FOR THE BLIND
* Hausa Braille

Islands—33

Batak: Karo
Batak: Simalungun
Batak: Toba
Chamorro
Fiji
Gilbert Islands
Hawaiian
Indonesian
Javanese
Kusaien
Malay
Maori
Marshall Islands
Neo-Melanesian
Palau
Philippines:
Bicol
Bilaan
Binukid
Cebuano
Hiligaynon
(Panayan)
Ibanag
Ifugao
Ilocano
Pampanga
Pangasinan
Samarëño
Subanun
Tagalog
Samoan
South Toradja
Sundanese
Tonga of Tonga Islands
Tahitian

Eskimo: Kuskokwim
Eskimo: Labrador
Guajira
Guarani
Haitian Creole
Hopi
Huastec
Huave
Huichol
Iroquois
Kekchi
Keres
Mam
Mataco
Maya
Mazahua
Mazatec
Mixtli
Mixtec
Muskogee
Navajo
Negro-English
Ojibwa
Otomi: Mezquital
Otomi of the State of Mexico
Otomi: Sierra
Papiamentu
Pocomchi
Portuguese
Quechua: Ancash
Quechua: Ayacucho
Quechua: Bolivian
Quechua: Cuzco
Quechua:
Ecuadorian
Quechua: Huanuco
Quechua: Junin
Quiché
Spanish
Tarahumara
Tarascan
Tepehua
Toba
Tojolabal
Totonac
Trique
Tzeltal
Tzeltal: Bachajon
Tzotzil
Tzutujil
Valiente
Zapotec: Isthmus
Zapotec: Mitla
Zapotec: Sierra
Juarez
Zapotec: Villa Alta
Zoque
FOR THE BLIND
English
* Line letter
* Moon
* New York Point
* New York Point
Bipage
* American Braille
* Braille, Grade 1
* Braille, Grade 1½
* Braille, Grade 2
* Talking Book
Records
* Portuguese Braille
* Portuguese Talking
Book Records
* Spanish Braille
* Spanish Talking
Book Records

Americas—85

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